

Summary Health Report for Dorset Young People

Title of Report

Children in Care and Care Experienced Young People Annual Report 2024–2025

Who Wrote the Report

The report was written by **Louise Harris Smith (now Louise Maple)**, who is the **Designated Nurse for Children in Care and Care Experienced Young People**.

Date Written

The report was finished on **6th June 2025**.

Summary of What the Report Is About

This report talks about how NHS Dorset helped children in care and young people who have been in care. It looks at how their health needs were met between **April 2024 and March 2025**. It also shares facts about how many children are in care, what help they got, and what still needs to be done to make things better.

Key Messages

- There are more children in care this year than last year.
 - Many children in care live outside Dorset, which can make getting health help harder.
 - NHS Dorset is working hard to make sure children in care get the health support they need.
 - Listening to children and young people is very important.
 - The goal is to help children in care live healthy and happy lives.
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Important Facts and Figures

- **1011** children are in care in Dorset (Dorset Council: **443**).
- **1263** care leavers are known to both BCP and Dorset councils.
- **334** children from other areas live in Dorset.
- **35%** of children in care live outside Dorset.
- **87%** of unaccompanied asylum-seeking children live outside Dorset.
- **31%** of children in care are aged 16–18.

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- In England, there were **83,630** children in care at the end of March 2024.
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Actions or Recommendations

Here's what NHS Dorset plans to do next:

- Work better with schools and special needs services.
 - Make sure health checks happen on time.
 - Improve mental health support for children in care.
 - Use data to understand health needs better.
 - Offer more specialist health services.
 - Give clear guidance for adoption records.
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This report has been generated by Copilot and has been reviewed by the author as the responsible professional.

Louise Maple

Designated Nurse

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